

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05284 111522Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SAA-01 SES-02 SSM-03  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
HA-05 ACDA-12 /101 W  
-----079602 111530Z /44

P R 111438Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9620  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5284

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: LE MILI PINS PLO  
SUBJ: PALESTINIAN WARNING ON LEBANON

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. A PLO SPOKESMAN ON SEPTEMBER 9 WARNED THAT THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION WOULD "NOT STAND IDLY BY" IN LEBANON. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE PALESTINIANS HERE WILL CONTINUE TO STAY OUT OF THE FIGHTING BETWEEN SYRIAN SOLDIERS AND CHRISTIAN MILITIAMEN, UNLESS ISRAEL INTERVENES DIRECTLY OR THE CHRISTIANS BEGIN MAJOR SHELLING OF PALESTINIAN AREAS. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO THE PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY Wafa, A PLO SPOKESMAN ON SEPTEMBER 9 SAID:

A. "THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION, ACTING FROM A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY, WILL NOT STAND IDLY BY REGARDING THE BIG ISOLATIONIST-ZIONIST-IMPERIALIST  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 05284 111522Z

CONSPIRACY IN LEBANON WHICH AIMS AT CHANGING THE BALANCE OF POWER IN FAVOR OF THIS TRIANGULAR PLOT IN LEBANON."

B. "THESE FASCIST FORCES AND THEIR ALLY, ISRAEL, WILL NOT FRIGHTEN THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION BECAUSE THE REVOLUTION WILL CONFRONT THEM WITH ALL ITS MEANS,

SIDE BY SIDE WITH ALL THE FREE AND HONORABLE PATRIOTS  
IN LEBANON."

3. THE SPOKESMAN MADE THE STATEMENT AFTER A MEETING  
IN DAMASCUS ON SEPTEMBER 8 BETWEEN PLO CHAIRMAN YASIR  
ARAFAT, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ABDEL HALIM KHADDAM  
AND SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF HIKMAT SHIHABI.

4. COMMENTS:

A. THE LEBANESE PRESS IN RECENT DAYS HAS WIDELY  
CLAIMED THAT ISRAEL WAS THREATENING TO INTERVENE  
DIRECTLY IN LEBANON ON THE SIDE OF THE MARONITES.  
IN ADDITION, ON SEPTEMBER 8-9 SEVERAL MORTAR ROUNDS  
STRUCK IN THE TARIQ JADIDAH AREA OF WEST BEIRUT,  
WHERE MANY PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS HAVE THEIR OFFICES.

B. NEVERTHELESS, PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS HERE  
HAVE SO FAR STAYED OUT OF ANY SIGNIFICANT PARTICIPA-  
TION IN THE FIGHTING BETWEEN CHRISTIAN MILITIAMEN  
AND SYRIAN SOLDIERS. WE BELIEVE THE PALESTINIANS WILL  
CONTINUE TO TRY TO STAY OUT OF IT. WE ALSO BELIEVE  
THE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT IS A WARNING THAT THE  
PALESTINIANS WILL JOIN THE FIGHTING IF THE ISRAELIS  
INTERVENE DIRECTLY, OR IF THE CHRISTIANS SHOULD BEGIN  
MAJOR SHELLING OF THE PALESTINIAN AREAS OF WEST BEIRUT.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 05284 111522Z

PARKER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, THREATS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT05284  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780369-0932  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780979/aaaacncw.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f9ef5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1475454  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PALESTINIAN WARNING ON LEBANON  
**TAGS:** MILI, PINS, MOPS, LE, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f9ef5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014